AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A ~~In a~~ system for enhanced business analysis and management capable of predictive organizational performance, ~~a combination~~ comprising:

analysis and management software, for ~~first means~~ defining the status of complex system/organization components in terms of issues and relationships, ~~said first means including a second means~~ for obtaining input data from participants in an organization regarding their perception of the significance of their interaction with others on particular issues and/or relationships within the organization; and ~~third means~~ for quantifying the agreement among various system/organizational components relative to selected systems/organizational tool characteristics reflecting the interactive perspective of individuals relative to each other on said issues and relationships, to establish benchmarks for orienting and/or monitoring system/organization change and improvement for measuring, predicting and enhancing various aspects of the organization;

memory, for storing the analysis and management software; and

a processor, for processing the analysis and management software.

~~whereby benchmarks are established for orienting and/or monitoring system/organization change and improvement for measuring, predicting and enhancing various aspects of the organization.~~

2. (Currently Amended) A ~~In a business~~ method of enhancing ~~for enhanced~~ business analysis and management capable of predictive organizational performance, in a system which comprises analysis and management software, for defining the status of complex system/organization components in terms of issues and relationships, for obtaining input data from participants in an organization regarding their perception of the significance of their interaction with others on particular issues and/or relationships within the organization; and for quantifying the agreement among various system/organizational components relative to selected systems/organizational tool characteristics reflecting the interactive perspective of individuals relative to each other on said issues and relationships, to establish benchmarks for orienting and/or monitoring system/organization change and improvement for measuring, predicting and enhancing various aspects of the organization; wherein the method comprises ~~the steps~~ ~~comprising~~:

storing the analysis and management software in the memory; and

processing the analysis and management software in the processor, which includes:

obtaining ~~the~~ input~~s~~ data from ~~of~~ participants in an organization regarding their perception of the significance of their interaction with others on particular issues and/or relationships within the organization;

defining the status of complex system/organization components in terms of issues and relationships; and

quantifying the agreement among said various system/organizational components relative to selected systems/organizational tool characteristics reflecting the interactive perspective of individuals relative to each other on said issues and relationships,

to establish ~~whereby~~ benchmarks ~~are established~~ for orienting and/or monitoring system/organization change and improvement for measuring, predicting and enhancing various aspects of the organization.

3. (Previously presented) A combination as set forth in claim 1, wherein said tool characteristics include:

a metric for "CLARITY".

4. (Previously presented) A combination as set forth in claim 1, wherein said tool characteristics include:

a metric for "INVOLVEMENT".

5. (Previously presented) A combination as set forth in claim 1, wherein said tool characteristics include:

a metric for "LEVERAGE".

6. (Previously presented) A combination as set forth in claim 1, wherein said tool characteristics include:

a metric for "PRIORITY".

7. (Previously presented) A combination as set forth in claim 1, wherein said tool characteristics include:

a metric for "RELATIVE PRIORITY".

8. (Previously presented) A combination as set forth in claim 1, wherein said tool characteristics include:

a metric for "INTEGRATION".

9. (Previously presented) A combination as set forth in claim 1, wherein said tool characteristic includes a metric for "CLARITY" which is determined by the criteria analysis:

$$Clarity = \frac{Links(confirmed)}{Link(confirmed) + Links(unconfirmed)}$$

the range of clarity is $0 \leq 1$, where 0 represents a total lack of clarity and 1 represents perfect agreement (within the preset agreement criteria).

10. (Previously presented) A combination as set forth in claim 1, wherein said tool characteristic includes a metric for "INVOLVEMENT" which is determined by the criteria analysis:

$$Involvement = \frac{L}{N(2^{N-1} - 1)}$$

where: L = confirmed links with Importance ≥ 3

N = total population ($[2^{N-1}-1]$ represents the maximum number of links in a population of size N)

the range of involvement is $0 \leq 1$, where 0 = no important interactions with others and 1 = full involvement.

11. (Previously presented) A combination as set forth in claim 1, wherein said tool characteristic includes a metric for "LEVERAGE" which is determined by the criteria analysis:

$$Leverage = \frac{L_1 + 2L_2 + 3L_3 + 4L_4 + 5L_5}{5N(2^{N-1} - 1)}$$

where: L^a = number of confirmed links with Importance = a

N = total population ([2^{N-1}-1] represents the maximum number of links in a population of size N)

the range of leverage is $0 \leq 1$, where 0 = no leverage and 1 = maximum leverage.

12. (Previously presented) A combination as set forth in claim 1, wherein said tool characteristic includes a metric for "PRIORITY" which is determined by the criteria analysis:

$$\text{Pr}\,iority = \frac{L_1 + 2L_2 + 3L_3 + 4L_4 + 5L_5}{10N(2^{N-1} - 1)}$$

where: L_a = number of half-links with Impact = a

N = total population ([2^{N-1}-1] represents the maximum number of links in a population of size N)

the range of priority values is $0 \leq 1$.

13. (Previously presented) A combination as set forth in claim 1, wherein said tool characteristic includes a metric for "RELATIVE PRIORITY" which is determined by the criteria analysis:

$$\text{Re}\,lative\,\text{Pr}\,iority = \frac{P_n}{\sum_i P_i}$$

where: Pn = Priority value of issue n

i = issue number.

14. (Previously presented) A combination as set forth in claim 1, wherein said tool characteristic includes a ~~the~~ metric for "INTEGRATION" which is determined by the criteria analysis:

$$Intergration = \frac{L_1 + 2L_2 + 3L_3 + 4L_4 + 5L_5}{5N_1N_2}$$

where: L_a = number of confirmed links between unit 1 and unit 2 with

Importance = a

N_1, N_2 = total number of links in unit 1 and unit 2

the range of integration is $0 \leq 1$, where 0 = no connection between units and 1 = full integration.

15. (Withdrawn) Each and every novel feature and/or combination of novel features herein disclosed.

16. (Previously presented) A method as set forth in claim 2, wherein said tool characteristics include:

a metric for "CLARITY".

17. (Previously presented) A method as set forth in claim 2, wherein said tool characteristics include:

a metric for "INVOLVEMENT".

18. (Previously presented) A method as set forth in claim 2, wherein said tool characteristics include:

a metric for "LEVERAGE".

19. (Previously presented) A method as set forth in claim 2, wherein said tool characteristics include:

a metric for "PRIORITY".

20. (Previously presented) A method as set forth in claim 2, wherein said tool characteristics include:

a metric for "RELATIVE PRIORITY".

21. (Previously presented) A method as set forth in claim 2, wherein said tool characteristics include:

a metric for "INTEGRATION".

22. (Previously presented) A method as set forth in claim 2, wherein said tool characteristic includes a metric for "CLARITY" which is determined by the criteria analysis:

$$Clarity = \frac{Links(confirmed)}{Link(confirmed) + Links(unconfirmed)}$$

the range of clarity is $0 \leq 1$, where 0 represents a total lack of clarity and 1 represents perfect agreement (within the preset agreement criteria).

23. (Previously presented) A method as set forth in claim 2, wherein said tool characteristic includes a metric for "INVOLVEMENT" which is determined by the criteria analysis:

$$Involvement = \frac{L}{N(2^{N-1} - 1)}$$

where: L = confirmed links with Importance ≥ 3

N = total population ([2^{N-1}-1] represents the maximum number of links in a population of size N)

the range of involvement is $0 \leq 1$, where 0 = no important interactions with others and 1 = full involvement.

24. (Previously presented) A method as set forth in claim 2, wherein said tool characteristic includes a metric for "LEVERAGE" which is determined by the criteria analysis:

$$Leverage = \frac{L_1 + 2L_2 + 3L_3 + 4L_4 + 5L_5}{5N(2^{N-1} - 1)}$$

where: L^a = number of confirmed links with Importance = a

N = total population ([2^{N-1}-1] represents the maximum number of links in a population of size N)

the range of leverage is $0 \leq 1$, where 0 = no leverage and 1 = maximum leverage.

25. (Previously presented) A method as set forth in claim 2, wherein said tool characteristic includes a metric for "PRIORITY" which is determined by the criteria analysis:

$$\text{Pr}iority = \frac{L_1 + 2L_2 + 3L_3 + 4L_4 + 5L_5}{10N(2^{N-1} - 1)}$$

where: L_a = number of half-links with Impact = a

N = total population ([2^{N-1}-1] represents the maximum number of links in a population of size N)

the range of priority values is $0 \leq 1$.

26. (Previously presented) A method as set forth in claim 2, wherein said tool characteristic includes a metric for "RELATIVE PRIORITY" which is determined by the criteria analysis:

$$\mathrm{Re}\,lative\,\mathrm{Pr}\,iority = \frac{P_n}{\sum_i P_i}$$

where: Pn = Priority value of issue n

i = issue number.

27. (Previously presented) A method as set forth in claim 2, wherein said tool characteristic includes a metric for "INTEGRATION" which is determined by the criteria analysis:

$$Intergration = \frac{L_1 + 2L_2 + 3L_3 + 4L_4 + 5L_5}{5N_1N_2}$$

where: L_a = number of confirmed links between unit 1 and unit 2 with

Importance = a

N_1, N_2 = total number of links in unit 1 and unit 2

the range of integration is $0 \leq 1$, where 0 = no connection between units and 1 = full integration.